

denies plan to raise prices
Feb. 16 (R)—The Secretary General of the Organisation for Exporting Countries (OPEC) today denied that OPEC members planned to hold an extraordinary conference to discuss the effects of the Iranian crisis on oil prices. He said, "We'll have an ordinary conference in June in Geneva." He said that OPEC would not raise prices until the crisis was over. Mr. Ortiz said the price rise announced by Abu Dhabi yesterday was a readjustment to the price differential between light crude, which is sulphur-free and more expensive, and heavy crude oil.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورنن تايمز يوميه سياسي تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

Jordan to call S. Council meeting

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 16 (R)—Jordan said today it was taking steps to convene an urgent Security Council meeting to consider the "ominous and accelerating erosion of the Palestinian presence on Palestinian land" in the Israeli-occupied territories. Addressing a U.N. committee on the rights of the Palestinian people, Ambassador Hazem Nusseibeh said Israel had already taken over much of the fertile land on the West Bank of the Jordan as well as water resources. "The situation has deteriorated to the point where the very survival of the Palestinian people on Palestinian soil is in serious jeopardy," he said. Mr. Nusseibeh, current chairman of the Arab group of states at the U.N., told Reuters later that he hoped the Security Council would be able to meet before the end of this month.

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News Roundup

aid sees no oil rationing need at present

Feb. 16 (R)—West German Economics Minister Otto Grevill said today he did not expect any oil exports from Iran in the first quarter of this year. He told reporters that according to industry projections Iranian oil exports should reach the second quarter, at the average rate of two million barrels a day. In the third and fourth quarters exports should rise to four million barrels, according to these projections. Mr. Grevill said that the government held to its view that there was no need for measures such as petrol rationing or a ban on extended driving. Count Lambsdorff said he had a telephone conversation yesterday with the U.S. Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, in which they agreed that the situation in the oil market was very different and that the United States supply problems.

accuses Vietnam of border attacks

Feb. 16 (R)—China today accused Vietnam of killing and wounding 20 in incidents on the Sino-Vietnamese border between Feb. 8 and last Monday, the New China News Agency reported. A strong protest lodged with the Chinese Embassy in Peking today also said Vietnamese personnel had encroached on Chinese territory near at Grand Gorge from Feb. 8 to 12 in Yunnan and the neighbouring Muong Khouang autonomous region. It said 10 Chinese had been killed and 20 wounded by the Vietnamese inside China, and 10 Chinese killed and 20 wounded by the Vietnamese outside China, in the same area. A call by the Peking-backed Paoi government in Hanoi to China for another urgent Security Council meeting to discuss the charges of "aggression" met a cool response from the Chinese. After day-long consultations, council members agreed to take no immediate action. They were to consult with Vietnamese Ambassador Ha Van Lau who has a press conference, during which he was expected to make the Kampuchean charges.

year-old case against Whitlam dismissed

Feb. 16 (R)—A three-year-old private prosecution against former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam over his alleged attempts to raise overseas loans was today dismissed by the High Court. The decision ended a protracted legal battle between the former prime minister and a group of businessmen who had accused him of mismanaging the country's finances. The court ruled today that the case against Mr. Whitlam was dismissed. The case had been brought by a group of businessmen who had accused Mr. Whitlam of mismanaging the country's finances. The court ruled today that the case against Mr. Whitlam was dismissed. The case had been brought by a group of businessmen who had accused Mr. Whitlam of mismanaging the country's finances.

reports thwarting Ugandan attack

Feb. 16 (R)—Tanzania has thwarted an Ugandan, supported by tanks and artillery, to cross the Tanzania-Uganda border, a Tanzanian Government statement said. The statement said that Ugandan forces had been repulsed in a battle near the border. The statement also said that Ugandan forces had been repulsed in a battle near the border. The statement also said that Ugandan forces had been repulsed in a battle near the border.

plosion disrupts radio communications

Feb. 16 (R)—An explosion on the sun today affected radio communications, especially between airline pilots and controllers in Japan, Japanese scientists said. The explosion was said to have occurred in the atmosphere above Japan. The explosion was said to have occurred in the atmosphere above Japan.

'strong' tremor hits Greek island

Feb. 16 (R)—Athens Observatory today registered a strong earthquake centred 215 kilometres southeast of the city. The earthquake was said to have occurred in the Aegean Sea. The earthquake was said to have occurred in the Aegean Sea.

mad Ali prepares for Joe Bugner bout

Feb. 16 (R)—Muhammad Ali arrived here today for his fight with Briton Joe Bugner and reiterated that he was not fighting even if he wanted to continue. He said he was not fighting even if he wanted to continue. He said he was not fighting even if he wanted to continue.



The four top officers executed Friday by the new revolutionary government in Iran. They are (from left) Gen. Reza Najfi, former Martial Law Administrator of Isfahan; Gen. Mehdi Rahimi, former Military Governor of Tehran and Chief of Police; former Savak Secret Police Chief Nematollah Nasiri; and Gen. Manouchehr Khorasani, Head of the Army's Airborne Brigade. (AP wirephoto)

Agrees to sell Israel Sidewinders

Brown continues talks on regional stability in Cairo

LUXOR, Egypt, Feb. 16 (R)—U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown arrived in Egypt today on a three-day visit during which the Egyptians are expected to seek substantial U.S. aid for modernising their armed forces. Western diplomatic sources in Cairo said the Egyptians had not yet submitted a detailed list of their requirements. But they believed it would include tanks, armoured personnel carriers, anti-aircraft guns and naval vessels. The sources said Mr. Brown was likely to be sympathetic to Egyptian requests for help to strengthen a pro-Western alliance in the Middle East after Egypt and Israel sign a peace treaty. But prospects of a large military aid programme were remote, the sources added. The Secretary flew directly from Israel to this ancient city in Upper Egypt on what will be the final leg of a four-nation tour of the region aimed at reassuring America's Middle East allies of its continued military and political support. Since Friday is the Moslem holy day, the Secretary spent the afternoon viewing historical monuments and temples near Luxor before flying north to Cairo for a dinner given by Egyptian Defence Minister Kamel Hassan Ali. He is scheduled to hold a first round of talks with Lt.-Gen. Ali in the capital tomorrow and to meet President Anwar Sadat later in the Suez Canal city of Ismailia. The diplomatic sources said Egypt was keen to scale down and modernise its huge armed forces after the signing of the projected Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The sources said Egypt had suggested privately that it could give some of its older Soviet equipment to friendly African nations in return for more up-to-date U.S. weapons.

Carter: no easy solutions to problems with Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 16 (R)—President Carter told Mexicans today there were no easy solutions to their differences with the United States but said he and President Jose Lopez Portillo had made progress in three days of talks. Mr. Carter assured them he was committed to a U.S.-Mexican relationship based on full cooperation, understanding and mutual respect—a theme that Mr. Lopez Portillo struck in remarks highly critical of the United States two days ago. The Mexican president said in a controversial toast at a state luncheon for Mr. Carter on Wednesday that the United States looked with disdain and fear at Mexico because of its own oil power. Mr. Carter reiterated in a prepared speech to the Mexican Congress today that the United States had no intention of trying to influence Mexico's decisions on developing its vast oil reserves. Though deeply concerned over the turmoil in Iran and the vulnerability of Middle East oil supplies, the American leader said the United States respected Mexico's right to produce and use oil as it saw fit. The president indicated that solutions were far in the future for the problems of Mexico's oil and natural gas and the illegal flow of Mexicans north across the border into the United States in search of jobs. The only agreements he announced were minor accords, signed yesterday, on cooperation, on housing and arid crop development. After pledging that the United States would not interfere, he said his country was prepared to pay a fair and just price for supplies of oil and natural gas that Mexico wanted to sell. Mr. Carter's text did not report any agreement on an especially vexing problem—his administration's veto of the sale of natural gas to the United States.

Chad warring sides agree to ceasefire

PARIS, Feb. 16 (R)—A ceasefire was declared in the fighting in the Chad capital of N'djamena last night and appeared to be holding today, informed sources in Paris said. About 500 people are thought to have died in the violence which began last Monday. The French Foreign Ministry reported that four French citizens, including a woman, had been killed in the fighting between troops loyal to President Felix Malloum and supporters of rebel Prime Minister Hissene Habre. A mission from Sudan, currently president of the Organisation of African Unity, was expected in the city after today to try and negotiate a reconciliation between the two sides, the sources said. The Foreign Ministry said 566 French citizens had been evacuated from Chad to Libreville, capital of Gabon. In Geneva, the International Red Cross Committee (ICRC) said today its representatives have been able to take casualties from the fighting in Chad to hospital in N'djamena and to deliver medical supplies for them. During a truce in the fighting yesterday Red Cross lorries took casualties and medicines to the central hospital in N'djamena where there were already about 40 wounded, the ICRC said. Later, with the agreement of both sides in the conflict, a DC-4 plane flew to the town of Abeche where it took on 20 wounded and flew them to N'djamena.

Four top Iranian generals executed

TEHRAN, Feb. 16 (R)—Iran's new rulers have executed four of the Shah's top generals and are putting 22 other military and civilian officials of the overthrown monarchy on trial, an official spokesman said today.

The generals, including Nematollah Nasser, the former head of the Savak Secret Police, were shot just before midnight after an Islamic court convicted them of treason, torture and massacres. They were machine-gunned to death on the roof of the military headquarters of religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who led the campaign to topple the Shah. The spokesman said the others being tried included former Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda. It was not clear whether they had already been sentenced. A 90-minute sit-in outside the religious leader's residence. They were protesting against the provisional government's new appointments at the top of the armed forces and calling for the dissolution of the Shah's army, the purge and execution of senior officers and the creation of a national revolutionary army. The Ayatollah, who has repeatedly appealed for all troops to return to barracks as soon as possible, sent out a spokesman who told the crowd all the appointments were temporary until peace returned. Appointments would later be made on merit, the spokesman said. He warned of plots by Savak and America's Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to foment disorders and continue the crippling five-month-old strikes, which are officially due to end tomorrow on the Ayatollah's orders. Apparently referring to the atmosphere of gun law in Tehran following the arming of thousands of civilians in last weekend's uprising, the spokesman quoted the Ayatollah as saying that if Iranians were seen to create disorders, foreign countries would think them incapable of freedom and maintaining peace. Hinting for the first time that marxists would be allowed to operate under the new regime, the spokesman said that all ideologies would be allowed to express their ideas within the framework of the Ayatollah's Islamic republic once peace had returned. Middle Eastern diplomatic sources yesterday said there were strong indications that Dr. Bazargan faced problems from marxist guerrillas who wanted a share of power in return for the major contribution they made to last weekend's uprising. The situation in the northwestern city of Tabriz near the Soviet border was today reported as quiet. The "Voice of the Revolution" radio appealed to people not to attack the military in Tabriz, saying they had pledged their allegiance to the government. At least 700 people are reported to have died in fierce fighting in the city during the last two days. The official Pars News Agency said there had been several clashes in another sensitive border area—at Khash and Zahedan in the troubled Baluchi region near the Pakistani frontier.

U.S. accuses Moscow

Broadcasts to Iran imperil Americans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (R)—The United States accused the Soviet Union today of beaming news broadcasts to Iran that could endanger Americans there. The formal protest was lodged as an evacuation began of up to 4,500 U.S. citizens from Iran. In announcing the protest made to the Kremlin, State Department spokesman Hoddin Carter also said the United States had informed Iran's new government that Washington intended to maintain diplomatic relations with Tehran. Mr. Carter said the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow, Malcolm Toon, had called on Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to lodge the complaint. Word of the protest came as a first hatch of Americans was airlifted out of Iran in the major evacuation ordered after Wednesday's guerrilla attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. Mr. Carter said the first flight evacuated more than 150 Americans. He said there would be two evacuation flights tomorrow and at least two more daily for several days to come. The State Department spokesman said Iran's new revolutionary government was providing security escorts for the evacuees as they converged on Tehran airport. The U.S. government protested sharply on Wednesday over Soviet broadcasts that claimed the embassy attack had been staged to provide a provocation which would enable U.S. forces to invade Iran. Spokesman Carter said Ambassador Toon had now expressed the United States' "dismay and surprise" at false accounts of the takeover. Turning to the U.S. communications to the provisional Iranian government, he said: "This is a formal declaration that our relations do continue. The Ambassador in Tehran has asked for an opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister."

Since last October, when protest demonstrations against the Shah began to spread, about 38,000 Americans have left Iran. A State Department spokesman said yesterday it was unclear how many Americans wanted to leave as many were private citizens not working for the U.S. government. Others were married to Iranians. Some of those expected to leave tomorrow on the 747 flight—one bound for Rome and the other for Frankfurt—could be embassy personnel since the ambassador has decided to reduce his staff, officials said. The United States has received permission from Turkey to send five helicopters and six C-130 transport planes to the NATO air base at Incirlik near the border with Iran for use in the evacuation if needed. Each helicopter can take up to 50 persons while up to 92 can be carried by a C-130. The U.S. government has said that it will provide any assistance sought by other countries to fly their nationals out of Iran. Vice President Walter Mondale was overseeing the evacuation effort in the absence of President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who were due back in Washington tonight after a three-day official visit to Mexico.

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Damas-Scene

Compiled for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of Feb. 17 - 23)
EXHIBITS

TUESDAY, Feb. 17: Oil paintings by the Belgian artist Rudall Dan. The exhibition will open for one week at the Arab Cultural Centre. A 7 p.m. distribution will be held.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19: A photographic commentary on the Soviet Navy Day will open for one week at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

THURSDAY, Feb. 22: A major exhibition featuring the works of the Syrian artist Farah is among the list of participating painters, sculptors and the poets.

FRIDAY, Feb. 23: An exhibition of 35 oil paintings by Turki Mahdoud Bey is on view through Feb. 28 at the French Cultural Centre. A native of Deir Ez-Zor, Mr. Mahdoud Bey executes to invest in bedouins and abstracted Arabic calligraphy in a unique style.

SATURDAY, Feb. 24: An exhibition of 35 oil paintings by Turki Mahdoud Bey is on view through Feb. 28 at the French Cultural Centre. A native of Deir Ez-Zor, Mr. Mahdoud Bey executes to invest in bedouins and abstracted Arabic calligraphy in a unique style.

SUNDAY, Feb. 25: An exhibition of 35 oil paintings by Turki Mahdoud Bey is on view through Feb. 28 at the French Cultural Centre. A native of Deir Ez-Zor, Mr. Mahdoud Bey executes to invest in bedouins and abstracted Arabic calligraphy in a unique style.

THEATRE

TUESDAY, Feb. 17 and SUNDAY, Feb. 18: Theatre "Kaze" of Japan will entertain children at 6 p.m. both evenings in the Al-Hamra Theatre. This company of 13 performs "Trunk The-atre" using ropes, cloth and paper; and "Animeime", utilising puppets and balls—all media children are accustomed to, but which are new to the theatre.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19: The National Theatre of Syria is going into its 10th week of Mamduh Adwan's version of "Man of La Mancha" featuring Zinat Koutia as Don Quixote. Performances are nightly from 7:30 p.m. except Friday at Al-Hamra Theatre. Tharab Dipsei is the director of the musical-orchestration and singing have been prerecorded (in Arabic).

LECTURES

TUESDAY, Feb. 18: Prof. W. Al Baroudi will present an evening of poetry under sponsorship of the Arab Union of Writers at 6 p.m. at the Arab Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19: "The Political and Journalistic Activity of Arab Combatants of Independence in Germany during World War I" will be the topic of Prof. Werner Ende at 5 p.m. at the Theatre No. 6, Damascus University. The German scholar's visit is co-sponsored by Damascus University and the West German Cultural Institute (in Arabic).

olar's visit is co-sponsored by Damascus University and the West German Cultural Institute (in Arabic).

TUESDAY, Feb. 20: A roundtable discussion on "Ways and Means to Prepare and Develop Teachers for the Classroom" will be the topic of Dr. Hartmut Schupps of the German Democratic Republic School at 6 p.m. at the GDR Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

TUESDAY, Feb. 20: Prof. Werner Ende of Hamburg University's Department for Arabic Language and Literature will talk on "Arabic Historiography in the 20th Century" at 5 p.m. at Damascus University Amphitheatre No. 6. His topic will be open to questions and discussions concerning the Umayyad Empire. Prof. Ende has studied Arabic, Islamic culture and history at the American University of Cairo (1963-64). Halle and Hamburg.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21: "In the World of Dancing" is the topic of a lecture by Riso Kanichvili at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21: "Jean Rostand in a Certain Regard," Part I will be shown at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French).

FRIDAY, Feb. 23: "Dossier-Souvenir with Edith Piaf" will be shown at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French).

FILMS

SATURDAY, Feb. 17 and MONDAY, Feb. 19: "Sept Mois sur Ordinance," a film directed by Jacques Rouffio starring Michel Piccoli, Gerard Depardieu and Marina Vlady, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic subtitles).

SUNDAY, Feb. 18: Documentaries on camping, hunting, horse-riding and horse-riding will be shown at 6 p.m. at the German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre (in German, Arabic subtitles).

MONDAY, Feb. 19: "Silent Minute" is slated for 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic subtitles).

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21: A documentary film entitled "The Government Troupe of Soviet Dancers" will be shown at 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic subtitles).

THURSDAY, Feb. 22: "Tout L'Or du Monde," directed by Rene Clair and starring Bourvil, Philippe Noiret and Francoise Dorleac, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French, Arabic subtitles).

FRIDAY, Feb. 23: "You Cannot Forget" is the title of a film scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian).



Belgian songstress-comedienne Annie Duparc imitates Charlie Chaplin and sings in her own style nightly at the rooftop supper club of the Meridien Hotel.

ENTERTAINMENT

Vivacious Belgian songstress Annie Duparc has started a three-week engagement in the rooftop supper club of the Meridien Hotel. The dynamic redhead is determined to spend the daylight hours touring the Old City of Damascus because it is here that her husband-to-be was born.

"You might say I'm engaged to marry a man of all nations," Ms. Duparc said. It seems her fiancé is an American citizen with a medical practice in Brussels, but he was born in Syria of Russian parentage.

Ms. Duparc's appearance at the Damascus Meridien will cap her career as an international entertainer. Soon as she returns to Belgium, she will wed her physician and limit her theatrical life to the Brussels stage. This is not Ms. Duparc's first appearance in Damascus; four years ago she starred in a French Festival of Songs at Cinema Sufara. She also performed in Aleppo during 1977.

Not only does she belt out romantic ballads in her own Duparc style, she is an excellent impersonator—her acts at the Meridien include take-offs on Charlie Chaplin, Barbara Streisand and Shirley Maclaine. Ms. Duparc also sits in with Ignazio Di Lieto's orchestra—she competently plays nine instruments—and excels on the saxophone, trumpet, guitar, drums and piano.

If you like feats of magic, you shouldn't miss Romanian magician Retas who is appearing nightly through Feb. 28 at the Meridien Hotel Disco. The internationally acclaimed magician is renowned for theatrical hypnotism, illusions, pseudo-spiritualism and telepathy as well as general manipulations of magic. His honors include Maître Magicien de L.A.F.A.P., Ordre des Illusionistes, All Indian Magiciens Circle of Calcutta, Belgian Ring Club des Magiciens de Bruxelles and Cercle Français D'Illusion.

ELSEWHERE IN SYRIA

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21: Prof. Werner Ende of Hamburg University will speak on "The Political and Journalistic Activity of Arab Combatants of Independence in Germany during World War I" at Aleppo University (in Arabic).

THURSDAY, Feb. 22: "Arabic Historiography in the 20th Century" will be the topic of Prof. Werner Ende at Aleppo University. Dr. Ende is a faculty member of Hamburg University's Department of Arabic Language and Literature. His visit to Syria is co-sponsored by Damascus University and the West German Cultural Institute (lecture in Arabic).

PAT-POURRI

A gold ribbon for best party of the month goes to Jeri and Richard Rauh (he's first secretary of the U.S. embassy). More than 50 guests converged at the Rauh's sixth-floor apartment Wednesday night to meet a contingent from the Chinese embassy. Mr. Rauh has always been a culture vulture and he particularly admires Chinese art, Chinese food, Chinese traditions and the people. When the opportunity arose, he invited several of the Chinese he has officially met in Damascus to a get-together at his home. Best of all, he gave several of his American and Syrian friends the chance to meet his Chinese guests.

Mr. Rauh, who has taken extensive Chinese cooking lessons in Washington, D.C., did not attempt to serve oriental delicacies, but instead chose eight American courses including creamed corn and barbecued ribs -- the latter two dishes win much praise from the Chinese women on hand. The Rauh residence is a mini-museum filled with exquisite rugs, china, paintings, bronzes and sculptures collected by the couple throughout the Arab World and the Far East over the past 15 years. Nevertheless, Liu Cheng-yen, first secretary of the People's Republic of China, politely said: "Sorry, Rick, but I think this platter is Japanese. Sorry, but this bowl isn't Han Dynasty, it looks more like Hong Kong 1962."

The Chinese Counsellor Huang Pu-chen and U.S. Ambassador Talcott Seelye soon struck up a conversation as did Mrs. Joan Seelye and the counsellor's English-speaking wife, Chou Wen-fan. Syria's first woman diplomat, Maia Schich-Fadli, was observed chatting with Christa and David Newton, Deputy Chief Mission of the U.S. embassy; and Mrs. Newton's mother, Mrs. Rathe, of West Germany; Dr. and Mrs. Bourhan Abed; Farida Al-Saman; Wassila Soladi and her husband Fayed Shallah. The international motif was furthered by Pakistani guests, Capt. Mazhar Abbas and his lovely sari-clad wife, Zephoria. Mr. D. McCall of USAID actually exchanged comments with the Chinese in Chinese. A genuine bedouin invitation was extended by Samir Twaer to Chou Hain-hua and Mme. Wang Ssu Tu-shouan to visit his home city of Deir Ez-Zor. It was a warm, friendly evening and the Rauh's are to be congratulated for a truly international festivity.

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please mail them 10 days in advance to Pat McDonnell, P.O. Box 5601, Damascus, Syria.

Stage II

for Pre-qualified Groups

Let us know what you are doing

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Inflation brings worries to strong economies

By Colin Milham

Germany, with its bitter memories of the political consequences of inflation, sometimes seems more worried about the British and American economies than the British and Americans are themselves.

At the moment Europe and America's problems are purely economic, but for all the brave attempts to fight the disease in London and Washington, it is still as dangerous as ever and giving signs of growing worse.

Britain has already experienced a period of high inflation within recent years, and with the present industrial and economic problems may be heading for another dose, while the situation in the US, although not out of control, has rarely been as bad. With the exception of 1974, the present US inflation rate of nine per cent is the worst for 32 years.

Neither country has ever suffered from hyper-inflation, and a breakdown of democracy, followed by a dictatorship, and this may account for the fact that some of the measures introduced to control the problem have been too little and too late, particularly as far as America is concerned. The people of Britain seem more concerned about low pay, even though the cure for that may be worse than the illness.

One country which has known all the problems is Germany, which at present is ringed by countries with inflation problems. Massive inflation and economic ruin followed Germany's defeat in the First World War, bringing about the rise of Fascism, and leading to the Second World War.

The present West Germany has no such problems, having the

Germany and Switzerland, two of the world's strongest economies, are seriously concerned about inflation — in other countries.

strongest economy in Europe. While much of its population is too young to remember the inter-war period the elder statesmen of the Bundesbank probably do remember.

The Bundesbank is Germany's equivalent of the Bank of England, and it recently introduced measures designed to prevent inflationary pressures building up—proving that when your inflation rate is under three per cent, problems can still lie ahead.

This cautious attitude of the central bank is probably at variance with government thinking in Bonn at the moment, where any moves which may set back the economy are not welcomed, partly because they could lead to criticism from abroad.

The reason is that strong economies give rise to strong currencies, and the Deutschmark has risen very sharply against the dollar over the last year or so. Although this helps to keep down German inflation, the country's manufacturers have felt that their exports were meeting unfair competition, and this is a major reason behind the Bundesbank's intervention in the foreign exchange market to support the dollar.

The central banks in Japan, Switzerland and several other European countries have been in a similar position, and their total intervention was \$50 billion during 1978, of which Germany did \$24 billion and Switzerland \$13 billion.

This buying of dollars not only swells the foreign currency

reserves of the central bank, it also begins to leak out into the domestic banking system, increasing the liquidity of the commercial banks. Hence the worry about importing US inflation.

This surplus liquidity pushes down interest rates and encourages industrial expansion, but it also increases the domestic money supply alarmingly. Strong economic growth and a sharp rise in money supply is likely to lead to an unwelcome inflationary spiral.

Germany's money supply rose by 11.5 per cent last year, compared with an official target of eight per cent. In the last three months of 1978 it was growing at an annual rate of 14 per cent, and the Bundesbank has decided that something must be done. It has therefore raised one of its key borrowing rates, the Lombard Rate, to four per cent from 3.5 per cent, and increased the reserve requirements of the banks, thus taking money out of circulation.

These moves will not be without problems either, since higher interest rates may encourage the movement of more capital into Germany, and push up the value of the mark.

Switzerland's problem looks even worse, with the basic money supply growing at an annual rate of 17 per cent last year, against a target of five per cent. The difference, however, is that compared with Germany Switzerland's economic performance is sluggish, and inflation is therefore less of a worry.

This has been illustrated in the

difference in emphasis between mans fearing inflation, even though the present level is only 2.4 per cent, while the Swiss, with an inflation rate even lower at 0.7 per cent, are more afraid of the consequences of too strong a currency.

In recent weeks German officials have tended to suggest that support for the dollar will have to be moderated, while the Swiss have eased some of their currency restrictions, as an indication that they feel the worst period of upward pressure on the Swiss franc has passed.

Elsewhere in Europe central banks are watching interest rates very closely. Before the move by Germany to increase rates, there were signs of an easing of conditions in various countries.

The measures introduced by the Bundesbank are unlikely to change anything in other countries in the short-term, but since all Common Market currencies except sterling are soon to be linked, any further easing of monetary conditions may prove short-lived.

Germany's inflation rate is much lower than most of its EEC partners, and if the linking of currencies through the European Monetary System is to succeed, then interest rates in Paris, Milan, Dublin, Brussels, and Amsterdam, will have to be much higher than in Frankfurt.

The only final answer is a reduction of everyone's inflation rate to somewhere nearer the German level, but that still looks some way off. The latest figures from Paris show French inflation at 9.7 per cent in 1978, compared with nine per cent a year earlier.

Financial Times
News-Features

Dancer to director

By Clement Crisp

At the end of 1978 Lynn Seymour took up an appointment as artistic director of the ballet at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich. The news may have come as a shock to Miss Seymour's myriad admirers who foresaw a prospect of no more of those blazing performances which are the present joy of the Royal Ballet in Britain.

But an arrangement between Covent Garden and Munich has been announced allowing Seymour to continue dancing with the Royal Ballet as far as her new duties will permit. The Royal Ballet has, after all, been the cradle and the framework for her talent—a talent which has been hailed as one of the most inspiring in Britain's national ballet.

But this new development in Seymour's career comes at a crucial time. For anyone who, like me, has watched her from her first performances when, as a radiantly beautiful girl of 18, she made her mark in Kenneth MacMillan's "The Burrow" in 1958, there comes the sudden shock of realising that she is now in her late thirties.

All dancers—ballerinas most of all—are realists. They know that after 20 years performing at the very peak of their chosen calling, the body must inevitably start to fail, no matter how great their artistry.

It is a tragedy for dancers that as they grow older and their interpretative gifts increase and are enriched, their physical prowess, the brute tendons and muscles, start to decline. On occasions ballerinas have said to me as they enter their forties: "I've still got about five good years left, but after that..."

For them, for any great dance artist at this age, there comes the moment of assessing the future, of balancing gifts, genius and popular acclaim against the demands of their art on purely physical terms.

A few ballerinas, with care, may dance fruitfully into their fifties: Ulanova, Danilova, Markova, Plisetskaya continued to give valid performances at that age. Others continue longer still, and what the public then sees is a mere travesty of former greatness, as the artist loses all conscience about standards previously established.

For Lynn Seymour there has inevitably been an awareness that a dance career must end, and that something equally creative must replace it. Hence this move to Munich (a parallel with her contemporary, and great friend, Marcia Hayde who directs the Stuttgart Ballet and combines this with a continuing, splendid dance career). Hence, too, the fact that two years ago Seymour branched into choreography and, in her first workshop ballets demonstrated an ability to make dances of clear expressive merit.

Her first professional work was for the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet—it had long been a policy for this smaller section of the Royal Ballet to offer opportunities to young and debutant choreographers. Seymour's "Rashomon" showed that she was a choreographer of unquestioned ability.

Treating in vivid and erotic dance terms the theme of Kurosawa's celebrated film, "Rashomon" was an instant success. It was a work of clear personal style, illuminated also by the fact that Seymour had made a fine choice of collaborators in Pamela

Lynn Seymour, one of Britain's leading ballerinas for the past two decades, has already made her mark as a choreographer of note. Now her career takes another new turn with her appointment as artistic director at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich.

Marre, a young design student from the Slade School of Art, and Bob Downes, a musician who had made considerable study of Japanese flute music. The result was a gripping drama, emphasised by fine performances that Seymour stimulated from her cast.

There followed "The Court of Love", a work more interesting in idea than in achievement, for it suffered from an inconclusive ending. Then in the summer of 1978 Seymour created her most ambitious piece to date "Intimate Letters". It was a work in which she put elements from her own experience—she has been married twice and is the proud mother of twin sons aged 11 and younger son of four. The ballet is centred upon the figure of a woman who finds herself at a party confronted by four men who love her in different ways.

The score is Janacek's string quartet of the same title, in itself a work having a deep personal significance to the composer. Seymour turned to the distinguished novelist Gillian Freeman (scenarist of "Mayerling" for the Royal Ballet) to devise a stage action which she, in turn, explored in a manner more recitative than arioso.

Its dense dramatic texture, and its emotional tension, reflected

aspects of Seymour's own genius as a ballerina. She has ever been a dancer in whose style meaning blazes through the dance. Her movement is lyrical, beautifully rounded, musical to its very core, and with a totally compelling emotional drive to it.

Her first created role, the girl in "The Burrow", was made for her by Kenneth MacMillan. Thereafter, she has been MacMillan's muse, the central figure in many of his ballets and the justification for his choreography. Her dancing, with its expressive fervour, has been celebrated in such superb works as "Romeo and Juliet" (she created the role of Juliet, and MacMillan made it the motive force of the ballet), and "Anastasia" (in which her incarnation of the Romanov Grand Duchess and the tormented figure of Anna Anderson is danced acting without parallel in ballet today).

In 1961 MacMillan first showed something of her range as the young girl, the pitiful victim of rape, in "The Invitation". Today Seymour still dances the role with total conviction, but she also on occasion assumes the part of the wife, bringing to it a magnificent compassion. In "Manon" she rivals Makarova, who is the only ballerina able to match her dramatic power; and in MacMillan's

most recent "Mayerling" performance as Mary Vetsera has been called the most exciting and physically demanding dancing of our time.

Yet Seymour is also a lyrical grace—a fact celebrated by Sir Frederick Ashton, who made for her the rôle of the "The Two Pigeons" in 1969, again paid tribute to her gifts in 1977 when he taught her the capricious and Natalya Petrova in "The Country".

In Ashton's brief essay Duncan—"Five Dances in the Manner of Duncan"—there is a similarity between Seymour's swoops and runs in draperies, and the genius we can see so clearly in Isadora. The identical exact—not precise in steps, but absolutely in spirit.

Many other choreographers have worked with Seymour, interpretations of the classic, re-creation of Giselle and Odette/Odile, been treasured for their beauty. It is this wealth of experience, this truly creative Seymour, brings to her appointment.

She also brings—and is someone who has known 20 years—a taste and an integrity that are rare characters.

The history of Ballet owes everything to its great figures: de Valois and Rambert and Seymour, calibre Munich is

Bright future for Ruhr coal industry



ESSEN, West Germany — This coalminer from the Ruhr industrial region of West Germany has every reason for looking cheerful. It has been such a cold winter that power stations in West Germany have bought more domestic coal and East Germany too has bought extra Ruhr coal to fuel power stations and meet demand. Long-term prospects look good too. The International Energy Agency, Paris, says in its first survey of long-term demand that even if economic growth is slow, both industrialised and Third World countries will need to mine more coal by the end of the century to meet demand. W. Germany has Western Europe's largest domestic reserves but is expected to be a net importer by 1990. (DaD)

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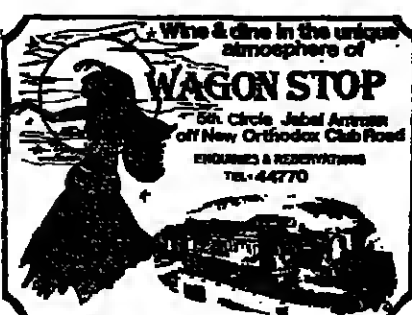
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ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be sure not to neglect any pressing bills at this time. Contact congenials and engage her in your favorite hobby.

AURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Show a more cooperative spirit with your associates and you have greater mutual success. Keep out of trouble as much as you can.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Conduct regular routines in a normal fashion without making any changes for best results today. Be less critical of others.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Study a plan whereby you can advance in your line of endeavor. Engage in a hobby you like.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Don't be too demanding at home and maintain harmony there. Take time to garer your data you need for a new project.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make long-range plans for the future that will give you added income. Join good friends for recreational purposes later in the day.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make sure you don't take any more responsibilities that you can afford. Make necessary repairs to property.

SAGITTARIUS (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Contact the right people going after personal aims. Handle private duties early in the day.

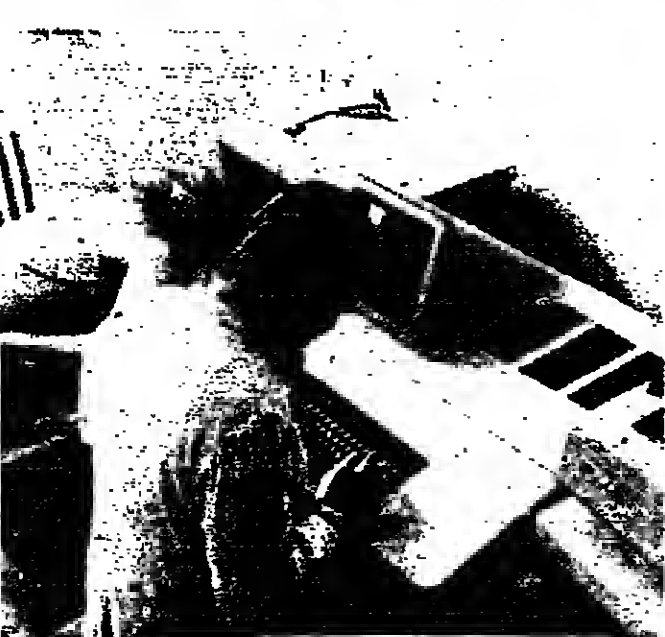
SCORPIO (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Make constructive plans for the future after you have conferred with an advisor you can trust. Avoid an opponent.

APRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Ust tact with a determined friend or you could get into trouble with this person. Take needed health treatments.

QUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have to act wisely in public today to avoid any kind of trouble. Sidestep one who is hypocritical. Be wise.

SCORPIO (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study every phase of new projects you have in mind before actually taking part. There are no risks with your reputation now.

Heart diagnosis in 5 minutes



Thanks to this mini-computer, any doctor can be a heart specialist. The computer was developed by the Institute of Medical Statistics and Documentation at the Justus Liebig University in Gießen, West Germany. This is believed to be the first device to be able to give a complete diagnosis five minutes after it has recorded the patient's heart beats. The computer even tells the doctor whether or not he has put on the electrodes correctly. (Dad photo)

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Harri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORDOB

REVUC

KRILLE

INLOPP

More than swindled — and in criminal fashion!

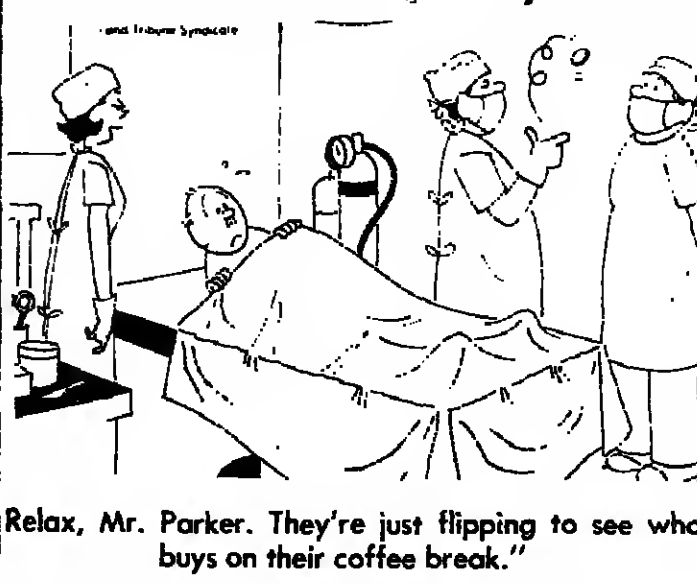
Now arrange the coded letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DAISY MINER HUMBLE FECUND
Answer: Fears might make you this — if you take proper precautions — "SAFER"

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



Relax, Mr. Parker. They're just flipping to see who buys on their coffee break."

THE Daily Crossword by John H. Hales

ACROSS

1 Proofreader's signal
6 German region
10 "...a— of tears"
14 Active part of T.E.
16 Sacred image
17 Poet's ingredient
18 Increase
19 Torn
20 Bears ill-will
23 Stannum
24 Actress
25 — Palmas

DOWN

28 Ice formation
31 — it (faster!)
35 Auditor:
36 1945 meeting place
38 Entrap
39 Biblical pronoun
41 Age periods
43 Springs
44 Abets
46 Roasting sticks
48 Japanese outcast
49 Whirlpools
51 Ideal setting

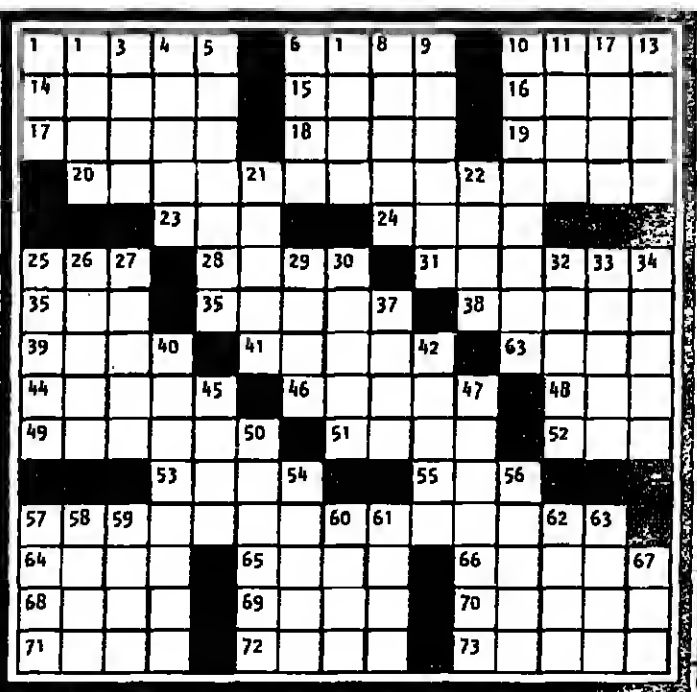
ACROSS

52 Slippery fellow
53 Place for enamel
57 Hold culpable for
64 "Rubaiyat" author
65 Poet
66 Teasdale
68 Salk quarry
69 Unyielding
70 Military service acronym
71 Levels
72 Williams and Kennedy
73 Enjoys a book

DOWN

21 A dental addition
22 Phoebe!
25 Turning tool
26 Hurt
27 Rebuke
28 Braze
29 Warehouse in Reims
32 "After they've seen —"
33 Prelect
34 Katmandu's land
37 Waterless friend
40 Rebellious Shortlander
42 Stock exchange membership
47 Meddler
48 Becomes interested
54 Tibetan capital
56 Herd
57 Golf stroke
58 Gallic lady
59 Playground
60 Historical periods
61 Foolish
62 Olive genus
63 Exploratory success
67 Former govt. agcy.

1/3/79

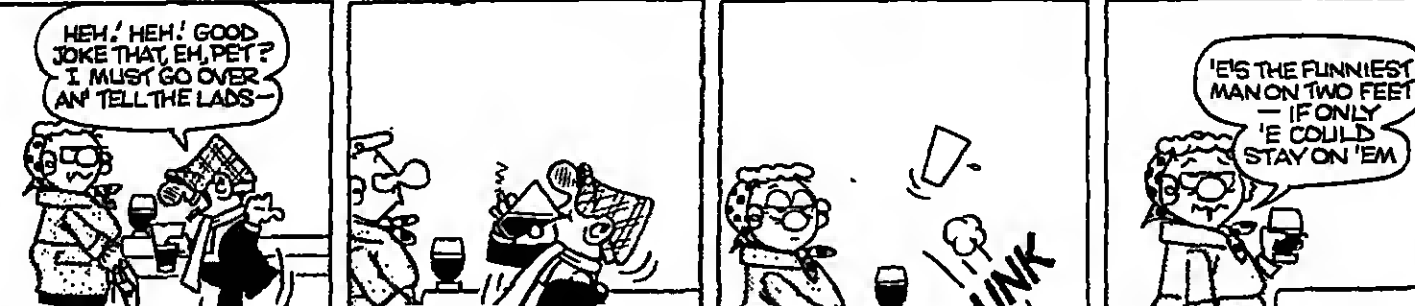


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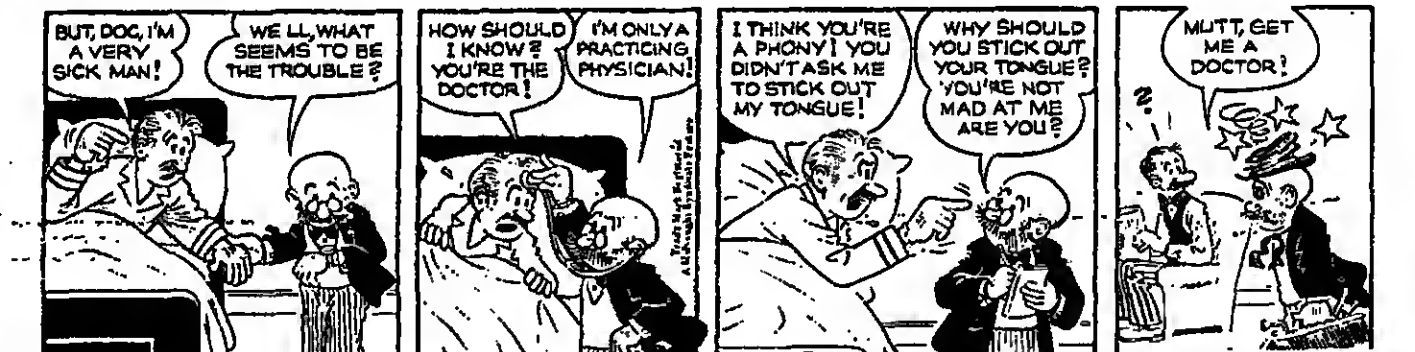
Peanuts



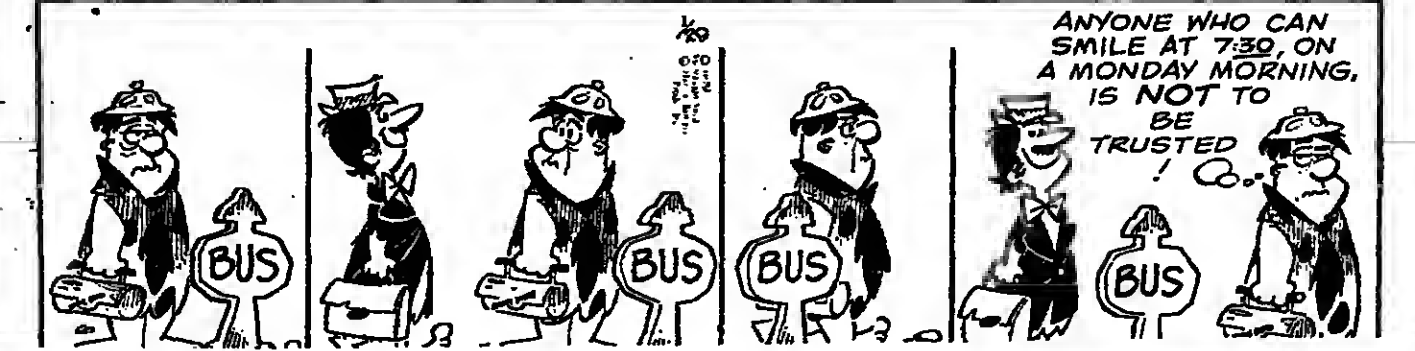
Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



FOREN BRIDGE

as South you hold:

♠ KQ104 ♥ 7 OKJ83 ♠ A752

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♠ Pass Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—As stated earlier, we are reluctant to allow the opponents to play at the one-level. Here, however, any action we take is fraught with risk. If we double, partner will surely respond in hearts. If we overcall with a weak hand, we are inviting trouble. And if we bid with one no trump, the opponents might locate a hidden fit. It seems clearly best to let West struggle in one spade, and hope for undertricks at 100 each.

Q.—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ KQ104 ♥ 7 OKJ83 ♠ A752

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ 2 ♥ 2 ♠ 3 ♥

What do you bid now?

A.—Clearly, you have the playing strength for four spades. Tactically, however, it would be wise to bid for clubs now. Should the opponents sacrifice over four spades, you want partner to lead a club, so make your lead-directing bid. It will be convenient to do so.

Q.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ KQ104 ♥ 7 OKJ83 ♠ A752

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—This is a matter of simple arithmetic. You have 18 points in high cards, and partner should have at least 18-20 for his overtrick and jump in no trump. You will probably be missing at most a queen, and, in addition, you have a running five-card suit. To bid anything less than seven no trump would be the height of conservatism.

Q.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ KQ104 ♥ 7 OKJ83 ♠ A752

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Opposite an opening bid, you have a most useful hand—enough for a redouble. However, that would leave you poorly placed if the opponents have bid some number of hearts when the auction gets back to you. Therefore, we suggest a response of two diamonds. The auction is unlikely to die there, so you will get a chance to show your other suit at your next turn, which will then give partner a fair picture of your distribution and high-card strength.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

BBC RADIO

GMT	04:00	Newsweek	13:30	News: Commentary
04:30	Where Angles Four in Tread	13:35	Europe	
04:45	Financial News: Reflections	13:40	Network U.K.	
05:00	News: Press Review	13:45	Classical Record Review	
05:15	Album Devotion	14:00	Sarah and Company	
05:30	Album of Musical Curios	14:30	Continued Performance	
05:45	The World Today	15:00	Radio News	
06:00	News: Press Review	15:15	Saturday Special	
06:30	What's new	16:00	News: Commentary	
07:00	News: News about Britain	16:15	Saturday Special	
07:30	The Voice of the Voice	17:00	News: Commentary	
07:45	Network U.K.	17:45	Sports Round-up	
08:00	News: Reflections	18:00	News: Commentary	
08:30	News: Press Review	18:30	Play of the Week	
09:00	World Today	19:00	Benji Green's Album Time	
09:15	Financial News: Look Ahead	20:15	People in Politics	
09:30	Science in Action	21:30	Once upon a Time	
10:15	About Devotion	21:45	The Book Programme	
10:30	Matthew on Music	21:55	Moment Musical	
11:00	News: News about Britain	22:00	News: Commentary	
11:15	New Ideas: The Week in Wales	22:30	News: Commentary	
11:30	A Breath of Fresh Air	22:45	Sports Round-up	
12:00	Radio News	23:00	News: Commentary	
12:15	Jazz for the Asking			
12:45	Sports Round-up			

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT			19:00	News and This Week
03:30	The breakfast show: news on the hour and 28 min. after each hour		19:30	Press Conference USA
17:00	Weekend		20:00	Special English: news/ words and their stories
08:00	Special English: news/ words and their stories, feature, short stories		20:15	Music USA (Jazz)
18:30	New York, New York		21:00	Weekend

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3	CHANNEL 6
5:30 Quran	6:30 French programme
5:45 Cartoons	7:00 News in French
6:00 Children's programme	7:30 News in Hebrew
7:10 Return to Peyton Place	8:30 Doctor on the go
8:00 News in Arabic	9:10 The Cedar Tree
8:30 Arabic series	10:00 News in English
9:30 Arabic programme	10:15 Saturday Variety Show
10:00 Arabic series	11:20 Barnaby Jones
11:00 News in Arabic	
11:20 Barnaby Jones	

RADIO JORDAN

7:00	Sign on	14:30	Hay Ya Yagran
7:30	Morning show	15:00	Concert Hour
7:30	News Bulletin	16:00	News summary
7:40	Morning Show	16:30	Easy listening
7:50	News Headlines	16:30	Old favourites
10:30	As I see it (Joan Rice)	17:00	In concert
11:00	Sign off	17:30	Radio theatre
12:00	Sign on and news headlines	18:00	News summary
12:05	Radio theatre	18:30	Album review
12:30	News Bulletin	19:00	News Bulletin
13:00	Radio theatre	19:10	News Reports
14:00	News bulletin	19:30	Sign off

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:	DEPARTURES:
7:30 Cairo (EA)	6:05 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (LH)
8:25 Muscat, Doha (RJGF)	7:30 Amman
9:00 Karachi, Dubai	7:40 Beirut, Paris (AF)
10:00 Amman	8:30 Beirut
10:15 Tel Aviv	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
10:30 Beirut	8:55 Cairo (EA)
12:40 Riyadh (SDI)	10:30 Benghazi
17:15 Benghazi	11:00 Brussels, Amsterdam
17:50 Frankfurt	11:30 Varna, Copenhagen
18:30 Cairo	12:00 Paris, London
19:00 Baghdad (IA)	13:00 Cairo
19:00 Beirut (MEA)	13:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)
21:15 Cairo	14:00 Cairo
22:40 London (BA)	19:00 Cairo
23:59 Cairo	19:30 Jeddah
01:45 Cairo	20:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJGF)
	20:15 Baghdad (IA)
	20:30 Cairo
	23:40 Rawalpindi (BA)
	01:50 Dubai (AZ)

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Amman:	Al Safa	Al Safa

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French Cultural Centre	37189
Greek Institute	31403
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Haya Arts Centre	61595
Husseini Youth Ctr.	61881
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W.C.A.	42551
W.C.A.	30111
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Jordan Television	73111
Radio, English Section	74124
Fire and fire, police	70
Fire headquarters	22940

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Arab Cultural Centre	333-727
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	557-901
British Cultural Centre	333-564
Deutsche Demokratische Republik Cultural Centre	333-932
French Cultural Centre	334-004
Kabani Theatre	227-016
National Museum	114-854
Soviet Cultural Centre	228-850
Spanish Cultural Centre	334-004
Umma Art Gallery	334-619
Zahara Public Library	111-318
West German Cultural Institute	224-954

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Fire headquarters	9597
Information	9597
Municipal water service	113-500

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Factual errors, flawed analysis,
says former under secretary of state

Ex-U.S. official slams Kissinger's remarks on Iran

LONDON, Feb. 16 (R)—George Ball, former U.S. under-secretary of state, in a letter published today strongly criticised former secretary of state Henry Kissinger and said his recent comments on Iran were filled with factual errors and flawed analysis. Mr. Ball, a top adviser to the late presidents Kennedy and Johnson during 1961-66, said that contrary to Mr. Kissinger's assertion, President Carter gave the Shah of Iran unqualified support to the end.

The letter attacking Mr. Kissinger was published in today's issue of the London weekly journal The Economist which last week carried a lengthy interview with the former secretary of state on Iran and other world issues.

Mr. Ball said that Mr. Kissinger bore heavy responsibility for former president Nixon's disastrous encouragement to the Shah to overload his country with inappropriate military hardware.

"This costly burden resulted not only in precipitating a financial squeeze that compelled cut-backs on construction, with resulting unemployment and disaffection, it also led the Shah to megalomania that cut him off from all contact with reality and the Iranian people," Mr. Ball declared.

He said that after May, 1972, not only did President Nixon's administration furnish covert help to the Shah against the Kurds, but Mr. Kissinger, then national security adviser, issued one of the most remarkable documents in American history. He directed that the Shah be allowed to buy any and every kind of the most advanced U.S. military hardware.

Mr. Ball also said, "It is nonsense for Mr. Kissinger to say that the Shah 'certainly had the means at his disposal to resist more strenuously than he did' during the Iranian revolution, and be chose not to exercise them because he must have had doubts about the United States' real intentions."

"The reason the Shah did not stand and fight was that his whole

country was solidly against him and his army was beginning to disintegrate under the pressure of competing loyalties—as has now occurred. It is fatuous to think that we could have kept a hated absolute monarch in power by encouraging the repressive use of military force. This was, after all, an internal revolt. What would Mr. Kissinger have done? Sent the Sixth Fleet steaming up the Gulf?" Mr. Ball asked.

He added that he could only believe that Mr. Kissinger was laying down a protective smokescreen when he sought to put the blame on too rapid modernisation, on American efforts to persuade the Shah to liberalise, or on President Carter's human rights policy. "I am sure he knows better than that," Mr. Ball concluded.



Solingen: Products in steel from old to new

There is hardly another town in West Germany whose name is so closely associated with objects of everyday use as Solingen. Wherever knives and scissors are sold, you will find products made in Solingen. Solingen is also the home of the German Sword Museum. It houses over 4,000 of the knives, swords, scissors and items of cutlery that have made Solingen world renowned for the past four hundred years. The museum's collection of weapons is unique, ranging from the executioner's sword to the sabre of a modern field marshal. Museum director Dr. Haedecke checks the most valuable weapons once a year and has rust removed. (DaD photo)

Belgian troops to Zaire said linked to discovery of plot to oust Mobutu

BRUSSELS, Feb. 16 (R)—Belgium's decision to send 250 paratroops to Zaire was partly based on discovery of a plot to overthrow President Mobutu Sese Seko, well informed Belgian Government sources said today.

They said that the Belgian Government learned at the end of January of a plan to attack the country by Zairean opposition groups based in Europe. They planned a pincer movement from the east and from lower Zaire, the sources said.

The paratroops—the last are due to go on Monday—are officially helping to train Zaire forces under an agreement between the two countries signed last year.

The sources said the information came at the same time as messages speaking of growing misery and economic collapse in Zaire.

The Belgian Government also heard about the recruitment of Belgian mercenaries for the plot but did intervene while it tried to find out in detail who was behind it.

Zaire said yesterday that a force of mercenaries, including Belgians, had gathered in neighbour-

ing Rwanda ready to attack the eastern Zaire province of Kivu.

Diplomatic sources in Kinshasa, the capital, said Zairean paratroops last week patrolled streets in Bukavu and Goma—two key towns in Kivu province—and set up road blocks.

The sources in Brussels said about 15 Belgian mercenaries left here last Saturday carrying cameras and apparently posing as

businessmen intending to survey Rwanda for tourism possibilities.

The sources said Belgium was still concerned about the effect on Europeans of possible unrest caused by the deteriorating economic situation.

They said trouble could happen at any time because of the vast numbers of unemployed who are dissatisfied with General Mobutu's rule.

Swiss referendum may shape nation's nuclear energy plans

BERNE, Feb. 16 (R)—Switzerland's 3.8 million voters decide by referendum this weekend whether to impose strict new controls on nuclear energy development. If the controls are approved in the voting, which begins tonight and ends on Sunday, communities will be given the right to veto the building of nuclear power stations in their areas.

A passionate public debate leading up to the nuclear vote has pitted the federal parliament, regional power authorities and private nuclear power industry against a well-organised environmental lobby. Opponents of the controls say that if approved, they would virtually prevent any future atomic power stations from being built and that this would spell doom to Switzerland's future prosperity.

If the controls are approved three nuclear power stations already operating will have to be approved retroactively by parliament and five others in various stages of construction will come under intense democratic scrutiny.

Italy's government crisis may lead to early general elections

ROME, Feb. 16 (R)—Early general election looked the most likely outcome of Italy's two-week-old government crisis today following renewed consultations between political parties.

Acting Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, who heads the present caretaker government, met Communist leader Enrico Berlinguer yesterday with revised proposals for a parliamentary pact.

But Mr. Berlinguer, whose party has demanded cabinet seats in any new Christian Democratic administration, turned the tables on the veteran premier with his own proposal—for a government

excluding Mr. Andreotti's party.

As an alternative he suggested a figure from one of the minor parties could try to form a multi-party coalition. He said Mr. Andreotti's proposals, which he did not disclose would not resolve the crisis.

The Christian Democrats have ruled Italy for over 30 years, but lacking a majority have been forced to rely on a variety of coalitions or working agreements to stay in power.

A Christian Democratic spokesman last night described the Communist proposals as "tough and provocative." He said Mr. Berlinguer was effectively inviting elections, which all the

major parties have said they want to avoid.

Mr. Andreotti, caretaker premier since Communist withdrawal of support forced his government to resign on Jan. 31, last night also talked with Socialist leader Bettino Craxi.

Mr. Craxi said Mr. Andreotti's proposals contained useful elements towards an agreement. He said they created "a new and completely different situation" which he would have to refer to his party.

So far the third-placed socialists have said they will not enter any new agreement with the Christian Democrats that does not include communist participation.

World News Briefs

41 killed by mystery explosion in Warsaw

WARSAW, Feb. 15 (R)—The toll from a mystery explosion which wrecked a central Warsaw savings bank yesterday has risen to 41 dead and 110 injured, the Polish News Agency PAP reported today. Seventy-seven people were still in hospital, the agency said. The explosion, given by PAP last night was 32 dead and 78 injured. Eye-witnesses estimated about 400 people were in the circular, two-story glass and metal building at the time of the blast just after midday. Buildings were damaged in the explosion, which has not been fully explained. The Warsaw newspaper Zycie Warszawy reported today that more than a thousand people had donated their response to public appeals. Theatres, cinemas and other places of entertainment in Warsaw were remaining closed today as a token mourning for the victims, PAP said.

Iran to maintain trade links with Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 16 (R)—Iran has assured the Tokyo government it will maintain friendly trade and economic links with Japan, a spokesman said today. The spokesman said today that after a cabinet meeting that the assurance was given in Tehran to Japanese Ambassador Chikara Wada. He quoted Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda as telling the cabinet that Dr. Banihashr also hoped Iran would resume its part in the construction of a billion petrochemical plant in Bandar Shahpur.

Turkey: Gunmen kill 4 in coffee-house raid

ANKARA, Feb. 16 (R)—Four people were killed when gunmen opened fire on a coffee-house in Turkey's southern city of Adana last night, police said today. Two people were seriously wounded, said. Witnesses said two gunmen arrived on motorcycles and opened fire on the coffee-house, known to be frequented by leftists. Adana is the capital of one of the 13 Turkish provinces which were put under martial law in December because of political unrest.

Court allows natural death for boy in coma

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 16 (R)—A judge yesterday ordered the parents of a three-year-old boy should be allowed to let him die if he remains in a coma. The boy, who was named Benjamin, has been in a coma since being involved in a car accident last year. Judge Matt Byrne said medical tests showed that Benjamin had irreversible brain damage. That means the father can order doctors to disconnect the boy today.

Tokyo to host seminar on tanker safety

TOKYO, Feb. 16 (R)—About 25 Asian and Middle Eastern nations will take part in a five-day seminar on tanker safety and pollution prevention in Tokyo from next Monday, the Transport Ministry said today. The meeting is sponsored by Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation.

Cancer researchers may have found cure

BOSTON, Massachusetts, Feb. 16 (R)—A group of cancer researchers say they have stumbled upon what may be the long-sought cure for cancer. The discovery was reported yesterday's edition of the New England Journal of Medicine. The team from the National Cancer Institute in Maryland, they developed the substance as a potential cancer treatment but tried it for acne because it was similar to existing acne drugs. They treated 24 acne sufferers with the new drug, which was orally, and 23 recovered completely, while the other showed considerable improvement. According to a government survey, 10 million Americans suffer from acne, and existing treatments are partially effective.

U.K. rock group wins 4 Grammy awards

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 16 (R)—Britain's Bee Gees pop group won four of the U.S. recording industry's Grammy awards here today, including the album of the year prize for "Saturday Night Fever." Billy Joel won the record of the year and songwriter of the awards for his "Just the way you are." Record critics said the group showed the record-buying public was turning its back on hard rock and switching back to romantic songs with strong melodies. From the prize for album of the year, the Bee Gees also won Grammy awards for the best arrangement for voices ("I've got a feeling"), for best vocal by a group ("Saturday night fever"), a record producer of the year, Aime Murray from Canada for Grammy for the best female pop vocalist for "You needed me." Barry Manilow won the male award for his driving record with ballad background, "Copacabana." The singing group "A Time to Heal," whose big hit was "Boogie oogie oogie," won the award for the best new artist of the year.

Patient is home after 3rd heart transplant

PHILADELPHIA, (AP)—Dr. Jerry Young, the only person in history to have three heart transplants, came home on Valentine's Day, with a heart pinned to his sweater and his sense of humour intact.

After greeting his family, Mr. Young opened his jacket to expose a small heart bearing the words: "My heart beats for you." He turned a crank on the back of the heart and it began to buzz and jump. "That's exactly how I feel," he said, laughing.

Mr. Young, a 43-year-old Cherry Hill, New Jersey podiatrist, underwent his first heart transplant at Stanford University in May, 1976, seven months after suffering a massive heart attack.

His body began to reject the heart in the summer of 1977 and his health declined. Last September, he returned to Stanford for a second heart transplant. The heart pumped properly, but his lungs were forced to work and put in another heart. Despite problems with rejection, pneumonia and dehydration caused by prescription drugs, Young grew stronger. On Feb. 14, he was moved into an apartment from the medical center.

Young pedaled a recumbent bike twice a week to keep his circulation up. His examination continued improvements gave him the go-ahead to leave the hospital on Feb. 14.

So 131 days after his making operation, Mr. Young arrived at the Philadelphia International Airport. "I'm home," Mr. Young embraced his family. "It's home."

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By Daniel Nelson

Carving up Antarctica

Antarctica is important for science because its unspoiled nature presents ideal research conditions. But it has other functions: its ecological processes affect the world's long-term weather pattern; the ice sheets provide a record of geological and climatic history stretching back tens of thousands of years; it contains most of the world's fresh water (thus the interest in towing icebergs to Australia and the Middle East); it may contain vast mineral wealth; and the fish and crustaceans which inhabit its waters could go far towards solving the world food supply problem.

It is the last two factors which have turned what was no more than a passing interest in Antarctica by the world at large into a race against time. For the lure of cashing in on the development of potentially extensive new energy supplies and a previously unrecognised store of food protein is worrying those who wish to ensure that the "white continent's" tightly-balanced ecosystem is not disturbed by exploitation.

So far the record of responsibility is mixed. Development of Antarctica has been slow since Captain Cook sailed round it in 1772-75. Conflicting claims to the area have resulted in few hostilities beyond the occasional tearing down of flags and demolition of huts. International cooperation in scientific research there was so successful during International Geophysical Year (1957-58) that the participating countries signed a treaty recognising that "it is in

the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes."

But even with the limited attention that Antarctica has received, large-scale hunting has decimated the seal and whale populations. Non-militarisation of the area was brought about not by idealism but by fear that it might be used for missile launchings. Overall, the restraint exercised in exploitation owes more to climatic inhospitability than to environmental concern.

This would not matter if we were still in the days when British explorer Ernest Shackleton placed a newspaper advertisement saying "Men wanted for hazardous journey. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honour and recognition in case of success."

But technology is overcoming the constraints, which gives urgency to the debate on who controls the continent. Since the establishment of the Antarctic Treaty, the signatories—Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Britain,

the United States, the Soviet Union, and Poland—have tried to keep the continent to themselves.

The problem is that they disagree over who has a right to what. There are conflicting territorial claims. Those of Chile, Argentina and Britain overlap, for instance. The Argentine cabinet once met on ice as a symbolic reinforcement of its claim. Some treaty powers, including the United States and Russia, do not even recognise the principle of sovereignty in the area. The 1959 treaty glosses over the territorial issue, effectively freezing it until the expiry of the agreement.

Now pressures are increasing for other countries to be given access to Antarctica's resources. This movement has been encouraged by the concept pushed forward at the Law of the Sea negotiations that deep sea-bed minerals are the common heritage of mankind.

Because of this confusion, the treaty fails to provide a workable basis for exploitation. The treaty powers have been trying to formulate a "living resources" agreement. The goal of having it signed by the end of 1978 came unstuck at a meeting in Buenos Aires in July, not surprisingly over

The 13 countries who signed the Antarctic Treaty would like to keep it to themselves. But the more closely scientists examine it, the richer Antarctica looks, and if extensive mineral deposits there are confirmed the cold continent could generate very heated arguments.

the jurisdictional aspects.

A new draft agreement has been worked out and will probably be discussed at an informal meeting of treaty powers in Geneva next March. This gathering is expected to pave the way for a definitive conference in June, in Australia. The treaty powers are negotiating with one eye over their shoulder on the mineral resources: agreement on fish would make it easier to formulate a pact covering oil and gas. They hope that the differences among members of the exclusive Antarctic club will be papered over sufficiently to keep out third countries.

Of the "living resources", the most lucrative are krill, shrimp-like creatures which swim in vast shoals up to half an acre wide and which contain around 15 per cent protein by wet weight, roughly the same as beefsteak.

Japan and the Soviet Union fish krill systematically and market them as pate, cheese spread and shrimp substitute. West Germany has its eye on them for animal feed

and Chile turns them into "fish fingers".

About 120,000 metric tonnes a year is currently harvested and one estimate is that the haul could be increased to 50 million tonnes, which compares with a total world fish catch at present of 70 million tonnes.

There are, however, technical problems of exploitation. Krill have only a four hour life before they must be frozen. Compared with 24 hours for fish. And the biological features that enable krill to survive in icy waters also give them strong resistance to freezing. Even more important, not enough is known about their breeding, or their role in the ecological chain, to make large-scale harvesting safe.

Scientists fear that indiscriminate fishing of this potentially valuable resource could jeopardise the survival of the area's other limited forms of life such as penguins and whales.

The krill debate whines in all the Antarctic issues: treaty countries which want to keep the benefits of

krill fishing to themselves; other signatories which insist on open access for all nations but which say the management of marine resources should be retained by the treaty powers on a "trusteeship" basis; outside countries

which feel the benefits of such living resources should not be reaped merely by a self-perpetuating clique of nations; scientists who oppose fishing in case it upsets the balance of the area.

Mineral exploitation is an even greater potential source of conflict. Widely conflicting estimates of oil and gas reserves have been made. There is speculation about the existence of uranium. East

Antarctica contains what might be the world's largest coalfield. Iron ore certainly exists in Antarctica and there is circumstantial geological evidence for the likelihood of other minerals including platinum, chromium and vanadium.

At least one constructive step has been taken. At the ninth consultative meeting of the treaty powers in London in October, it was agreed that exploration and exploitation of mineral resources would be discouraged until a joint approach had been worked out.

There is also a vague but useful commitment that the interests of the international community will not be jeopardised. The danger is that if extensive mineral deposits are confirmed, such tenuous pledges will be swept aside.

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